



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yencho, Stephen A.; et. al.

Assignee: Vascular Innovations, Inc.

Title: Method and System for Attaching a Graft to a Blood Vessel

Serial No.: 09/886,074

Filing Date: June 18, 2001

Examiner: Not yet assigned

Group Art Unit: 3762

Docket No.: 032405-053

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR § 1.97(b)**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In compliance with the Applicant's duty under 37 CFR § 1.56, the information listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 is brought to the attention of the Examiner. A copy of each item listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 is enclosed for the convenience of the Examiner.

The items identified in this Information Disclosure Statement may or may not be "material" pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.56, and the submission thereof by Applicant shall not be construed as an admission that any such patent, publication or other information referred to therein is material or considered to be material (37 CFR § 1.97(h)), or even qualifies as "prior art" under 35 USC § 102 with respect to this invention unless specifically designated by Applicant as such. Because this IDS is being submitted before receipt of the first Office Action, no fee is due.

An English language abstract of German-language reference DE 19732234 is provided in order to concisely explain its relevance, under MPEP 609 and 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i). Additionally, U.S. patent no. 4,076,162, which is the U.S. counterpart of French reference 2,316,910, is provided to concisely explain its relevance, under MPEP 609 and 37 CFR 1.98(a)(3)(i).

This IDS is believed to be timely in that it is being submitted before receipt of the first Office Action under 37 CFR § 1.97(b), and thus no petition or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian A. Schar
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Reg. No. 45,076
Vascular Innovations, Inc.
171 Jefferson Drive
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07-18-a

3762

July 17, 2002

Commissioner For Patent
Washington, D.C. 20231

Re: Applicant(s): Yencho, Stephen A.; et. al.
Assignee: Vascular Innovations, Inc.
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Dear Sir:


Transmitted herewith are the following documents in the above-identified application:

- (1) Return Receipt Postcard;
- (2) This Transmittal Letter;
- (3) Form PTO-1449 and references; and
- (4) Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☒ No additional fee is required.
- ☒ Conditional Petition for Extension of Time: If an extension of time is required for timely filing of the enclosed document(s) after all papers filed with this transmittal have been considered, an extension of time is hereby requested.
- ☐ Please charge our Deposit Account No. 502108 in the amount of \$ 0.00
- ☒ Please charge any additional fees required and credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 502108.
- Total:** \$ 0.00

EXPRESS MAIL NO. EV107871795US

Respectfully submitted,


Brian A. Sehar
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 45,076

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